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CIA Handling of Sylvia Duran Matter  
President

When/John F. Kennedy was assassinated on November

22, 1963, the United States investigative agencies -- FBI,

CIA, Secret Service, etc.--were asked to investigate the

assassination. When the Central Intelligence Agency learned

that Lee Harvey Oswald had visited Mexico City <sup>Mexico City still</sup> between

late September and early October, <sup>the CIA is not a they.</sup> they reviewed their <sup>it's</sup>

files and found in the electronic surveillance files <sup>and found</sup>

phone calls to the Soviet Embassy made September 27th,

September 28th, and October 1st, that could have been

made by Oswald. (See Electronic Surveillance Section.)

<sup>IT</sup> They also found phone calls between the Russian Consul

and Sylvia Duran where Oswald appeared to <sup>(have)</sup> be discussed.

(See Soviet Electronic Surveillance Section.) In addition

<sup>IT</sup> they found a phone call made by Sylvia Duran to the

Soviet Consulate on September 28, 1978, where Sylvia Duran

stated that there was an American citizen at the Cuban

Consulate who had previously visited the Soviet Consulate,

<sup>the allmost</sup> and put a man on the line. (See Soviet Electronic Surveil-

lance Section.) A final phone call where Oswald identified

himself was also found. <sup>on 10/1/78</sup> (See Soviet Electronic Surveillance

Section.)

↑ give date.

redundant  
in light  
of report

ex. since 7/2

awkward  
ambiguous  
what  
this  
is  
referring  
to  
Let's talk about this.

reference here?

*always use commas  
after prepositional phrase.*

At this point, the Central Intelligence Agency determined that it would <sup>not</sup> ask the Mexican Government-- *with* whom it had a good relationship ~~with~~--to arrest Sylvia Duran because she might shed some light on the circumstances surrounding the assassination. <sup>As</sup> Sylvia Duran was also a Mexican citizen, <sup>and</sup> did not have diplomatic immunity. The ~~Central Intelligence Agency's~~ <sup>the</sup> Mexico City Station sent a note to Luis Echevarria requesting that he arrest Sylvia ~~Sylvia~~ Tirado de Duran immediately. The agency stated that she was a Mexican citizen who had put Oswald in touch with the Soviet Embassy. The agency gave Echevarria a note with Duran's address, her mother's address, her brother's address, her license plate number, her home phone number and her place of work. The Mexico City Station also suggested that Duran be held incommunicado until she could be questioned on the matter. (Note to Luis Echevarria to arrest Sylvia Duran, November 23, 1963, CIA No. 444; Cable re oswald-Duran, Mexi 7029, November 23, 1963, CIA No. 441; Anne Goodpasture Chronology, Wx 7241, entry 36, November 23, 1963, CIA No. 635)

The request to Luis Echevarria was not authorized by the Central Intelligence Agency's Headquarters. When they received the cable on November 23, 1963, Headquarters

*Be sure the Mexico City Station did not get approval from Headquarters to request the Mex govt to arrest Sylvia*

*but does this mean that it was unauthorized?*

~~Because~~ The MCS did not receive prior  
authorization from CIA Headquarters to  
request the arrest <sup>because H.Q.</sup> of Duran by  
Mexican authorities. ~~The MCS~~ feared that  
~~such a request would jeopardize the relationship~~  
~~between the Mexican govt officials with the CIA,~~  
such a request  
would jeopardize the <sup>longtime</sup> relationship  
<sup>even</sup> ~~between~~ the Mexican govt officials with the CIA,  
Jack Whitten, D/W H 50 called . . . .

*it is clear that  
H.A. used this awareness  
but not clear that  
HCS who did.*

discovery  
The Central Intelligence Agency feared/that Amer-  
icans were behind the arrest of Sylvia Duran. (It) would  
endanger their continuing covert surveillance operations.  
For this reason, the Mexico City Station requested the

*Why?  
Make  
explicit.*

*Confusing.  
Also, this  
is the  
first that  
you  
are  
mentioning  
this.*

Mexicans to arrest Sylvia Duran on their initiative.  
Similar logic dictated when Headquarters asked the Mexico  
City Station to request the Mexican authorities to inter-  
rogate Sylvia Duran to the extent necessary to clarify  
the outstanding points raised in their cables the previous  
forty-eight hours. Headquarters stated that the Mexico  
City Station could provide questions to the Mexican  
interrogators but that they wished no Americans to come  
in contact with Duran. (Cable CIA Headquarters to Mexico  
City Station, November 27, 1963, DIR 85318, CIA No. 497;  
chronology of Anne Goodpasture, November 27, 1963, entry  
no. 121, CIA No. 653) When, on November 27, 1963, the  
Mexico City Station sent a photostatic copy of Sylvia Du-  
ran's ten page signed statement to Headquarters (Cable  
Mexico City Station to Headquarters, November 27, 1963,  
Mexi 7105, CIA No. 479; Chronology of Anne Goodpasture,  
November 27, 1963, entry no. 127, CIA No. 656) the follow-  
ing day Headquarters sent a clarification cable to the  
Mexico City Station. *seeking* Headquarters wanted to insure that  
neither Sylvia Duran nor the Cubans got the impression would

*too slangish*

*have a basis for concluding*

*go in a th*  
✓ ~~that the Americans~~ were behind her rearrest. The cable stated "We want the Mexican authorities to take the responsibility for the whole affair." (Cable from Headquarters to the Mexico City Station, November 28, 1963, DIR 85371, CIA No. 464; Chronology of Anne Goodpasture, November 28, 1963, WX7241, entry no. 141, CIA No. 658)

*this is way ahead of your issue. It is covered by Berk.*  
When the Central Intelligence began to deal with the Warren Commission, Headquarters cabled the Mexico City Station that their present plan in passing information to the Warren Commission was to eliminate mention of telephone taps in order to protect their continuing operations. Headquarters stated that they would rely on Sylvia Duran's statements and on the Consular files which the Soviets gave the State Department. [Headquarters stressed that exact, detailed information from Tetamil-7 and Tetamil-9 (Penetration agents in the Cuban Embassy) on just what Sylvia Duran and other officials said about Oswald's visits and his dealings would be valuable and usable corroborative evidence. (CIA cable from Headquarters to Mexico City Station, December 21, 1963, DIR 90466, CIA No. 549; Chronology of Anne Goodpasture, December 21, 1963, Entry No. 268, CIA No. 682)] *put in th*

Prior to three Warren Commission staffers (Messers. Willins, Slawson and Coleman) visit to Mexico City in

April 1964 the Agency still felt that if an American con-  
tacted Sylvia Duran, <sup>it</sup> ~~their~~ covert continuing operations  
<sup>would</sup> might be endangered. Headquarters cabled the Mexico City  
Station that one of the touchy subjects that the staffers  
would discuss was whether they should talk to Sylvia Duran  
in Mexico at the Consulate. (Cable Headquarters to Mexico  
City Station, April 8, 1964, DIR 13026, CIA No. 698)

Headquarters further cabled that the Warren Commission staf-  
fers knew that the Central Intelligence Agency had tap  
assets and that they might have guessed from the coverage  
that they had photo points and a source in the Cuban Em-  
bassy, but that they did not know the details on the Agency's  
arrangements with the Mexicans. Headquarters stressed  
that the Chief of Station should lend them all the needed  
assistance with the minimum possible disclosure of assets  
and techniques. (Ibid.) — Remind Berk to explain  
in his section how all this stuff

At this point the House Select Committee on Assassinations has determined that the Central Intelligence Agency  
thought their continuing electronic surveillance operation  
extremely sensitive and important. The Warren Commission  
would have needed to disclose sensitive information to  
contradict Sylvia Duran's story. The Central Intelligence  
Agency had input into what could go in the Warren Report.

(See Chuck Berk Write-up.)

must  
narrow  
down  
the  
relevant  
all this  
passing  
on  
Sylvia

was  
disclosed  
in by  
Mann

see over  
→

① Intro  
- state issue generally  
- procedure generally  
[outline of summary write-up]

② For each section:  
① statement of issue  
② summary of facts  
③ analysis of facts  
④ conclusion.

Remember: each section of fact  
summation & analysis must <sup>immediately</sup> ~~be~~ be  
abundantly clear ~~to~~ to the  
uninformed reader.